

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (original) A magnetic read/write apparatus comprising:
a recording medium; and
a head for writing/reading data to/from each sector on said recording medium;
wherein said magnetic read/write apparatus further comprises:
write inhibit slice setting device for, when data is written to said recording
medium, setting a write inhibit slice for said each sector based on a recording state of said each
sector on said recording medium.

2. (original) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said write inhibit slice setting device sets different write inhibit slices (one each) on a
left side and a right side of said each sector.

3. (original) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 1,
wherein said write inhibit slice setting device sets said write inhibit slice for said each sector
based on at least one of information on a write order of said each sector, position information on
neighboring sectors, information on a degree of proximity erasure by said head, and information
on rewrite counts of said neighboring sectors.

4. (withdrawn) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 3,
further comprising:
a write inhibit slice setting table for storing write inhibit slice setting values
established based on said information on said write order of said each sector and said position
information on said neighboring sectors,

wherein said write inhibit slice setting device sets said write inhibit slice for said each sector based on said information stored in said write inhibit slice setting table.

5. (withdrawn) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 3, further comprising:

memory device for storing at least one of said information on said write order of said each sector, said position information on said neighboring sectors, said information on said degree of proximity erasure by said head, and said information on said rewrite counts of said neighboring sectors,

wherein said write inhibit slice setting device sets said write inhibit slice for said each sector based on said information stored in said memory device.

6. (original) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 5, wherein after setting said write inhibit slice for said each sector, said write inhibit slice setting device rewrites said information on said write order of said each sector stored in said memory device.

7. (original) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 3, wherein:

a recording area is provided on said recording medium to store at least one of said information on said write order of said each sector, said position information on said neighboring sectors, said information on said degree of proximity erasure by said head, and said information on said rewrite counts of said neighboring sectors; and

said write inhibit slice setting device reads said recording area on said recording medium and sets said write inhibit slice for said each sector based on said read information.

8. (original) The magnetic read/write apparatus as claimed in claim 7, wherein said recording area is provided within said each sector or a management area on said recording medium.

9. (original) A magnetic read/write apparatus comprising:
a recording medium; and
a head for writing/reading data to/from each sector on said recording medium;
wherein said magnetic read/write apparatus further comprises rewriting device
for, when data is written to said recording medium, performing steps of:
counting the number of write operations performed on said each sector;
storing said information said number of write operations performed on said each
sector;
if said number of write operations performed on a sector is larger than a
predetermined value, reading data from neighboring sectors on one or both sides of said sector;
and
rewriting said sector with said read data.

10. (withdrawn) A magnetic read/write apparatus comprising:
a recording medium; and
a plurality of heads for writing/reading data to/from each sector on said recording
medium;
wherein said magnetic read/write apparatus further comprises write inhibit slice
setting device for performing steps of:
writing a write inhibit slice correction value for each head beforehand; and
when data is written to said recording medium, setting a write inhibit slice for said
each sector based on a recording state of said each sector on said recording medium and said
write inhibit slice correction value for said each head.